have lost their lives for one reason or the other, we mourn their loss. ...*(Interruptions)*... We mourn the loss of all the innocent citizens of this country who have lost their lives. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please observe silence. ...*(Interruptions)*...

(Hon. Members then stood in silence for one minute)

SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI (Uttar Pradesh): Don't make Indians Hindus and Muslims. Indians are Indians. ...*(Interruptions)*...

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 1. ...*(Interruptions)*... Question No. 1 please ...*(Interruptions)*...; Question No. 2. ...*(Interruptions)*...; Question No. 3 ...*(Interruptions)*...; Question No. 4 ...*(Interruptions)*... I would request the hon. Members to allow the Question Hour to proceed. Question No. 5.

* 1. [The questioner (Shri Brij Bhushan Tiwari and Shri Janeshwar Mishra) were absent. For answer *vide* page 8 *infra*.]

* 2. [The questioner (Shri N.R. Govindarajar) was absent. For answer *vide* page 10 *infra*.]

* 3. [The questioner (Shrimati Supriya Sule) was absent. For answer *vide* page 13 *infra*.]

* 4. [The questioner (Shri Vijay Jawaharlal Darda and Shri Abu Asim Azmi were absent. For answer *vide* page 14 *infra*.]

Bogibeel Rail-cum-Road Bridge

*5 SHRI SILVIUS CONDPAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present position in the matter of construction of Bogibeel Rail-cum-Road Bridge over river Brahmaputra in Assam under Northern Frontier Railway, which is a National Project;

(b) whether his Ministry would take-up the double laning of railway tracks within Assam upto Tinsukia under Northern Frontier Railway to facilitate the railway users of the seven North-Eastern States;

(c) whether the Rangiya Zonal Head Quarter has started functioning in its full scale and if not, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) what is the present position of conversion of Lumding – Badarpur route to broad gauge?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(a) The work on various activities connected with Bogibeel rail cum road bridge has been taken up including land acquisition, earthwork, minor and major bridges on the link lines. The boulder collection for guide bunds and protection works have almost been completed. The land

acquisition has been fully completed. Earthwork to the tune of 187.36 lakh cum out of 296.73 lakh cum, 13 out of 19 major bridges, 88 out of 98 minor bridges, 10 out of 15 ROB/BUB and 20.37 lakh cum of boulder supply out of 21.34 lakh cum has already been completed. The contract for main bridge sub-structure and guide bund on South bank with combined approach embankment has been finalized. The work of main bridge has also been taken up. An expenditure of Rs.952 cr. has been incurred on the project upto 31.03.2008 out of total anticipated cost of Rs. 1767 cr. and outlay of Rs. 75 cr. (through Railway Gross Budgetary Support) has been provided during 2008-09. The project is targeted for completion by March 2012.

(b) There exist two broad gauge lines between New Jalpaiguri and Guwahati on different alignments. Further, gauge conversion of Rangiya–Murkongselek along with completion of Bogibeel bridge will provide an alternative route of Dibrugarh/Tinsukia via the North bank line. The conventional doubling of the existing line in Assam upto Guwahati and beyond to Tinsukia is not considered justified from traffic point of view. As per traffic needs, patch doubling of Guwahati to Digaru has been taken up.

(c) There is no Zonal Railway Head Quarter at Rangiya. However, a Divisional Railway Office at Rangiya has already been operationalised ***w.e.f.*** 01.04.2003 and is fully functional.

(d) Lumding – Badarpur is a part of Lumding–Silchar–Jiribam and Badarpur–Baraigram–Kimarghat (368.46 km.) where land acquisition, earthwork, bridges, tunneling etc. have already been taken up and are in progress. The land acquisition has almost been completed. Earthwork to tune of 493.44 lakh cum out of 616.21 lakh cum, 23 out of 130 major bridges, 507 out of 657 minor bridges and 3731 mtr out of 10498 mtr. tunnel has already been completed. This project is targeted for completion by March 2011. The work has been suffering adversely due to militant activities. This is a National Project. Upto March 2008, an expenditure of about Rs.1180 cr had been incurred out of total anticipated cost of Rs. 1689 cr. An outlay of Rs.135.95 cr (through Railway Gross Budgetary Support) has been provided for the project during 2008–09.

SHRI SILVIUS CONDPAN: Question No. 5, Sir. ***...(Interruptions)...***

MR. CHAIRMAN: Can we proceed with the Question Hour please. ***...(Interruptions)...***

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, they have sold out the country. ***...(Interruptions)...***

डा0 मुरली मनोहर जोशी : सभापति महोदय, मैंने प्रश्नकाल स्थगित करने की सूचना दी थी। ...**(व्यवधान)**... बढ़ती हुई महंगाई और बढ़ता हुआ आतंकवाद ...**(व्यवधान)**... जनता में आक्रोश है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... देश असुरक्षित है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... सभापति महोदय, देश में महंगाई ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, please go back to your seats. ***...(Interruptions)...*** Please resume your places. ***...(Interruptions)...***

SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: The Prime Minister should come to the House; he should answer regarding assurance given to the House. ***...(Interruptions)...***

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned till 12 o'Clock.

The House then adjourned at twenty-four minutes past eleven of the clock till 12 o'clock.

The House re-assembled at twelve of the clock.
MR. CHAIRMAN in the chair.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Dengue deaths

†*1. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI:
SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that fifteen States in the country are in the grip of dengue;

(b) if so, the number of persons who died of dengue and whether Government is planning to formulate a country-wide plan to control this disease; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) Dengue is generally reported from 22 States and Union Territories of the country. This year till 8th October, 2008, 12 States and 3 Union Territories have reported 3988 cases including 49 deaths. State/UT wise details are annexed as Statement. (*See* below).

Government of India has already formulated a specific disease control programme for Dengue for which separate budget has been allocated in 11th Five Year Plan. During 2007–08, Rs. 2.50 crores was sanctioned which has been increased to Rs.16.69 crores in 2008–09. The following are the activities under this programme:

1. For strengthening monitoring and surveillance, Sentinel Surveillance Centre have been set up in 137 different existing hospitals spread over 20 States and Union Territories. Apart from these Sentinel Surveillance Centres, 13 labs have been identified as Apex Referral Labs spread out in existing hospitals in different parts of the country for the confirmation of Dengue.

2. For Dengue testing, dengue testing kits (IgM MAC Elisa kits made by National Institute of Virology, Pune) are being supplied to the Sentinel Surveillance Hospitals and Apex Referral Labs. These Centres are also being funded to some extent by Government of India.

3. States are being funded for procurement of fogging machines.

4. Capacity building through training is being done.

5. Need based operational research is being conducted.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.